

USA Information Alert

April 2005

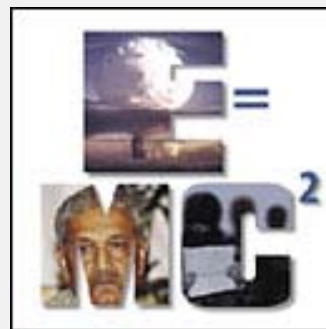
Earth Day 2005—Raising Environmental Consciousness.

Taken from www.earthday.net "This year, Earth Day Network's theme is "Protect Our Children and Our Future." Despite the extraordinary and often false obstacles that we face in our efforts to protect our natural resources and our biodiversity, few will dare argue with the moral imperative to protect our children from harm. As a consequence of that imperative, we call on governments, corporations, faith-based organizations, and all people in our troubled world to work with us to ensure that children everywhere are healthy, educated, and free from oppression."



On Thursday April 21, we hosted a digital video conference on water conservation strategies with Doug Bennett, a specialist in water conservation in Las Vegas, Nevada. The DVC was well attended and proved a lively discussion on issues of water conservation and management in arid environments.

eJournal



Today's Nuclear Equation Controlling Nuclear Weapons

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itps/0305/ijpe/ijpe0305.htm>

Recent Africa Related Reports

AIDS in Africa: Three Scenarios to 2025. March 4, 2005.

Full Report:

<http://www.unaids.org/Unaid/EN/AIDS+in+Africa+Three+scenarios+to+2025.asp> [pdf format, 224 pages]

U.S.-African Trade Profile [2005]. March 2005.

<http://www.agoa.gov/resources/US-African%20Trade%20Profile%202005.pdf>

Business and HIV/AIDS: Commitment and Action? January 20, 2005.

Full Report:

http://www.weforum.org/pdf/Initiatives/GHI_Report_2005_Final.pdf

World Economic Outlook: Globalization and External Imbalances. Web-posted April 13, 2005.

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2005/01/index.htm>

Currently in Congress (Selective highlights from recent Congressional activities)

Competition in the Communication Marketplace: How Technology is Changing the Structure of the Industry. House Energy and Commerce Committee, March 2.

<http://energycommerce.house.gov/108/Hearings/03022005hearing1443/hearing.htm>

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Noteworthy Article Alerts

For full text of these, and other Articles, please contact the librarians.

SHOULD THE CEO BE THE CHAIRMAN? Lorsch, Jay W.; Zelleke, Andy. MIT Sloan Management Review. Article Number: AA05111

Summary: Recent U.S. corporate scandals have shaken people out of their complacency regarding corporate governance, write Lorsch and Zelleke, but a knee-jerk reaction to adopt the British model of company leadership -- which separates the CEO from the chairman of the board -- without understanding its complexities is not the answer. The British model can lead to confusion about who is really in charge and power struggles, they say. Conversely, the authors explain, the U.S. model -- in which the CEO is also the chairman -- precludes any confusion as to who is really in charge. There are pros and cons to each model, they note, but for most large U.S. companies, adding a competent lead director to the board -- with clearly defined limited responsibilities -- will likely strike the right balance between effective govern-

ance and leadership. Boards that do choose to split the chairman and CEO jobs should not ignore lessons from the U.K. experiences, they write. Lorsch and Zelleke are from Harvard Business School and Wharton School of Business, respectively. [ES;LCJ]

OUT OF THE PAST. Ricchiardi, Sherry American Journalism Review

Summary: Over the years Jerry Mitchell, a prize-winning investigative journalist for the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Mississippi, has helped bring many civil-rights crimes from 40-50 years ago to light, and his investigations has helped put many murderers behind bars. Mitchell's most famous case was the work he did to track down the killer of NAACP field secretary Medgar Evers. Mitchell's persistence and determination brought Ku Klux Klan member Byron de la Beckwith to trial in 1989, where he was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison. Mitchell has dug through thousands of files, and brought many more unsolved civil rights murders to justice. Available online at <http://www.ajr.org/Article.asp?id=3852>. [GIC;KJB]



[Latest Headlines from Washington](http://usinfo.state.gov/af) <http://usinfo.state.gov/af>

[World Bank Nominee seeks Education on Africa's Needs](#) 20 April, 2005.

The man who soon will head the World Bank, former Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul D. Wolfowitz, dropped in unexpectedly on an April 15 Capitol Hill discussion on strategies for African development, explaining it was "a chance to get educated" about the continent's needs.

[U.S.-Africa Trade Is Up: Non-Oil AGOA Trade Expands—March 8 release from the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative](#)

Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), two-way trade (exports plus imports) between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa has increased, and a more diversified range of products is being traded, according to a fact sheet released recently by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.